

What is claimed is:

1. A sealing arrangement which includes a sealing ring having a sealing lip which is curved forward in the direction of the area to be sealed off and pre-tensioned so as to surround and form a seal around the circumference of a machine element to be sealed off,

wherein the sealing lip has, on the side facing radially away from the machine element, at least one recess which only connects and allows flow between the area to be sealed off and the surrounding area if the sealing ring is incorrectly mounted and the sealing lip is erroneously curved forward in the direction of the surrounding area.

2. The sealing arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the recess is embodied as a tube-like channel.

3. The sealing arrangement according to claim 2, wherein at least two recesses are uniformly distributed around the circumference.

4. The sealing arrangement according to claim 1, wherein at least two recesses are uniformly distributed around the circumference.

5. The sealing arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the sealing lip is made of a polymeric material.

6. The sealing arrangement according to claim 5, wherein the sealing lip is made of PTFE.

7. The sealing arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the sealing lip has, on the side radially facing the machine element, a recirculating spiral groove for the medium that is to be sealed off.

8. The sealing arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the sealing lip has, on the side radially facing the machine element, a recirculating spiral groove for the medium that is to be sealed off.

9. The sealing arrangement according to claim 4, wherein the sealing lip has, on the side radially facing the machine element, a recirculating spiral groove for the medium that is to be sealed off.